

THE HEIGHT OF THE RIDICULOUS

SONG FOR BARITONE

WORDS BY

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

MUSIC BY

CHARLES HENRY HART

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The Height of the Ridiculous

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

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Lightly, with humor

A musical score for piano, page 10, measures 11-12. The score is in 2/4 time. The treble staff has a dynamic 'p' and a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass staff has sustained notes and a bass clef. The piano keyboard is shown at the bottom.

p with humor

I wrote some lines once on a time In won-drous mer - ry mood, And

thought as u - sual men would say, They were ex - ceed - ing good.

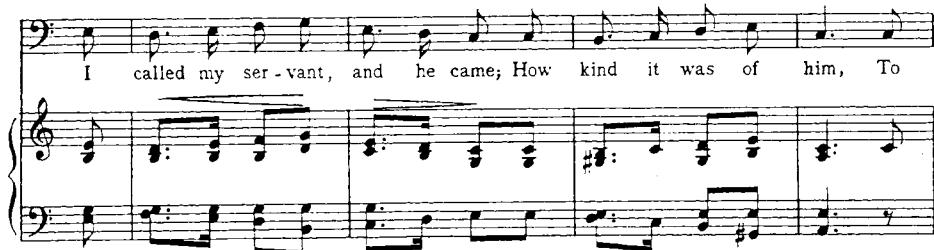
They were so queer, so ver - y queer, I laughed as I would die, Al -



be - it, in the gen -'ral way, A so - ber man am I.



I called my ser - vant, and he came; How kind it was of him, To



mind a slien-der man like me, He of the might - y limb.



Recit. ad lib.

"These to the printer," I ex-claimed, And in my hum'-rous way, I add-ed, (as a

ff

tri-fling jest) "There'll be the devil to pay". He took the pa-per, and I watched, And

p a tempo

saw him peep with-in; At the first line he read, his face Was all up - on the

f *rit.*

grin.

He read the next; the grin grew broad, And

p a tempo

shot from ear to ear; He read the third; a chuck-ling noise I now be-gan to hear. The

fourth; he broke in - to a roar; The fifth, his waist-band split; The sixth; he burst five

marc. e rit.

marc. e rit.

Presto

but-tions off, And tum-bled in a fit. Ten days and nights, with sleep-less eye, I

lunga

Largo *quasi doloroso*

quasi doloroso

a tempo.

ad lib.

watch'd that wretch-ed man, And since, I nev-er dare to write As fun-ny as I can.

f a tempo